

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claim 19. Please amend Claims 5 and 18. Please add new Claim 66. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

- 1-4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently amended) An isolated TCL-1 protein comprising an amino acid sequence encoded by a first nucleic acid that hybridizes under stringent conditions to a second nucleic acid that consists of the complement of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 from nucleotide 49 to 387, wherein the stringent conditions comprise washing at 50°C in 0.015 M NaCl, 0.015 M sodium citrate, and 0.1% sodium dodecyl sulfate, and wherein said isolated TCL-1 protein is a full-length TCL-1 protein and binds to an antibody that also binds to the TCL-1 protein of SEQ ID NO:2.
6. (Previously presented) An isolated TCL-1 protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 from amino acid number 1 to 113.
7. (Previously presented) An isolated fragment of a TCL-1 protein comprising at least 10 contiguous amino acid residues from SEQ ID NO:2, which can be bound by an antibody which also binds to the TCL-1 protein of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 8-12. (Canceled)
13. (Previously presented) A fusion protein comprising a TCL-1 amino acid sequence of at least 10 contiguous amino acid residues from SEQ ID NO:2 that is linked to a non-TCL-1 amino acid sequence, wherein the TCL-1 amino acid sequence is encoded by a first nucleic acid that hybridizes under stringent conditions to a second nucleic acid that

consists of the complement of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 from nucleotide 49 to 387, wherein the stringent conditions comprise washing at 50°C in 0.015 M NaCl, 0.015 M sodium citrate, and 0.1% sodium dodecyl sulfate, and wherein said fusion protein binds to an antibody that also binds to the TCL-1 protein of SEQ ID NO:2.

14-16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously presented) A method for producing a recombinant TCL-1 protein comprising:

(a) culturing a host cell that is transformed with a recombinant expression vector comprising a nucleotide sequence that encodes a TCL-1 protein, such that the TCL-1 protein is expressed by the host cell; and

(b) recovering the expressed TCL-1 protein,

wherein a first nucleic acid consisting of said nucleotide sequence that encodes the TCL-1 protein hybridizes under stringent conditions to a second nucleic acid that consists of the complement of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 from nucleotide 49 to nucleotide 387, wherein the stringent conditions comprise washing at 50°C in 0.015 M NaCl, 0.015 M sodium citrate, and 0.1% sodium dodecyl sulfate, and wherein said TCL-1 protein binds to an antibody that also binds to the TCL-1 protein of SEQ ID NO:2.

18. (Currently amended) An isolated TCL-1 protein derivative comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 90% amino acid sequence identity to the amino acid sequence depicted as SEQ ID NO:2, over a contiguous sequence of at least ~~25~~ 100 amino acids, whereby said isolated TCL-1 protein derivative binds to an antibody that also binds to the TCL-1 protein of SEQ ID NO:2.

19-65. (Canceled)

66. (New) The TCL-1 protein of Claim 5, wherein said TCL-1 protein is a human protein.